

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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DRAFTED BY C:HSOHNENFELDT

APPROVED BY C:HSOHNENFELDT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200957

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, SP, GW

SUBJECT: SPANISH APPROACH TO GERMANS RE US-SPANISH
NEGOTIATIONS

1. VON STADEN AT LUNCH TODAY SHOWED ME LENGTHY TELEGRAM FROM LILIENFELD REPORTING ON AUGUST 19 CONVERSATION WITH ROVIRA. BURDEN OF ROVIRA'S PITCH WAS TO TRY TO ENLIST GERMANS TO PERSUADE US TO TAKE MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION IN BASE NEGOTIATIONS, THOUGH FROM HASTY READING OF LILIENFELD'S REPORT THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN NO VERY SPECIFIC REQUEST. ROVIRA ASSERTED THAT SPANISH WERE CONCLUDING U.S. WAS STALLING IN ORDER TO AWAIT FRANCO'S DEMISE AND HE SOUGHT TO IMPRESS ON LILIENFELD THAT THIS WOULD BE BAD MISCALCULATION SINCE IN POST-FRANCO PERIOD CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT BE DRASTICALLY CHANGED FOR THE WORSE FROM STANDPOINT OF U.S., REASONABLE SPANISH AND EUROPEANS. ROVIRA ALSO REHEARSED SPANISH POSITION THAT IF NO AGREEMENT REACHED BY SEPTEMBER 26, SPANISH WOULD LET EXISTING ONE LAPSE. THERE WERE ALSO USUAL REFERENCES TO SPANISH GRIEVANCES VIS-A-VIS NATO. ROVIRA INQUIRED REGARDING GENSCHER'S PRESENCE IN NEW YORK
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FOR SPECIAL UNGA AND TENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WERE APPARENTLY MADE FOR MEETING THERE OF GERMAN AND SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTERS TO PURSUE DISCUSSION.

2. YOU MAY WISH TO GIVE LILIENFELD BRIEFING ON STATUS OF
NEGOTIATIONS OR, IF YOU PREFER, WE CAN ARRANGE TO HAVE VON
STADEN BROUGHT UP TO DATE AT THIS END. LET US KNOW. MAW

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